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# LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

# LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

OCTOBER, 1985

RELEASE DATE:
November 25, 1985

## LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

| (in thousands) | PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 1985 | | | | REVISED SEPTEMBER 1985 | | | | REVISED OCTOBER 1984 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate |
| LOUISIANA | 2,022.9 | 1,803.2 | 219.7 | 10.9 | 2,019.0 | 1,800.4 | 218.6 | 10.8 | 1,963.6 | 1,776.4 | 187.2 | 9.5 |
| LABOR MARKET AREAS: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alexandria 1/ | 65.4 | 59.7 | 5.7 | 8.7 | 65.1 | 59.6 | 5.5 | 8.4 | 63.2 | 58.4 | 4.8 | 7.6 |
| Baton Rouge 2/ | 267.0 | 240.4 | 26.6 | 10.0 | 265.9 | 239.4 | 26.5 | 10.0 | 256.0 | 234.2 | 21.8 | 8.5 |
| Houma - Thibodaux 3/ | 85.4 | 76.3 | 9.1 | 10.6 | 86.0 | 76.9 | 9.1 | 10.6 | 85.1 | 77.6 | 7.5 | 8.8 |
| Lafayette 4/ | 112.7 | 102.4 | 10.3 | 9.1 | 112.9 | 103.1 | 9.8 | 8.7 | 113.0 | 104.4 | 8.6 | 7.6 |
| Lake Charles 5/ | 75.1 | 65.2 | 9.9 | 13.2 | 75.4 | 65.4 | 10.0 | 13.2 | 75.4 | 65.9 | 9.5 | 12.7 |
| Monroe 6/ | 65.8 | 59.8 | 6.0 | 9.1 | 65.1 | 59.2 | 5.9 | 9.0 | 62.9 | 57.3 | 5.6 | 8.9 |
| New Orleans 7/ | 582.6 | 519.3 | 63.3 | 10.9 | 581.6 | 517.6 | 64.0 | 11.0 | 577.7 | 522.9 | 54.8 | 9.5 |
| Shreveport 8/ | 168.3 | 152.4 | 15.9 | 9.5 | 167.6 | 152.0 | 15.6 | 9.3 | 162.5 | 151.0 | 11.5 | 7.1 |

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

## EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,597,200 for October, an increase of 3,600 from September's level, but 11,700 lower than October a year ago. Seasonal gains in government and trade employment were largely responsible for the increase. Manufacturing employment was lower for the current month as a result of a downturn in durable goods.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing decreased in September to October reporting period. Increased production of millwork, plywood and structural members was significant in the increase of lumber and wood products employment. Stone, clay and glass products employment was down due in large part to decreased production of concrete, gypsum and plaster products. Lower production of blast furnace and basic steel products and less business at iron and steel foundries were primarily responsible for the payroll cuts in the primary metal industries. The machinery, except electrical, industry payroll level was down from the previous month mostly resulting from decreased production of construction and related machinery and less production of general industrial machinery. A decrease in business for ship and boat building and repairing firms was responsible for the loss in transportation equipment.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for October amounted to 95,000, an increase of 700 above last month's level, but 3,900 lower than the October a year ago figure. Food and kindred products employment was up mostly as a result of a seasonal upturn in sugarcane processing. Apparel and other textile products employment was higher as a result of increases in several segments of this industry. Less business for several segments of chemicals and allied products accounted for the lower employment level in this industry. Other nondurable goods employment was up as a result of a return to normal in the leather and leather products industry after a layoff.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during October was 1,421,900, an increase of 3,900 from the September figure of 1,418,000. A decrease in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas was responsible for the lower employment level in mining this month. An increase of activity in general building construction and in certain miscellaneous special trades accounted in large part for the increase in construction payrolls. A decrease in railroad transportation employment resulted in a lower employment level in transportation and public utilities. Trade employment was up due largely to increased hiring at department stores and specialty shops in preparation for the holiday season. A downturn in the miscellaneous amusement and recreation industry contributed to the decrease in services employment. Government employment increased primarily as the result of public educational institutions continuing their seasonal increase.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 123,400 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $434.30 in September to $432.43 in October, a decrease of $1.87, but an increase of $19.56 above October of last year. Average hourly earnings were two cents lower in October than last month, but $0.35 higher than October a year ago. Weekly hours averaged 41.5 during October, a decrease of 0.1 hours from last month's figure.

Total unemployment in Louisiana, estimated at 219,700 for October, was up by 1,100 above September's level of 218,600 and 32,500 higher than October a year ago. The unemployment rate for October was 10.9 percent, an increase of 0.1 percentage points above last month's rate of 1.4 percentage points higher than October of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for October was 6.8 percent compared to 6.9 percent in September and 7.0 percent for October a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force increased from 2,019,000 in September to 2,022,900 in October, a gain of 3,900 and 59,300 higher than the comparable period a year ago. Total employment moved from 1,800,400 last month to 1,803,200 for the current month, an increase of 2,800 and 26,800 higher than October a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate will probably show a decline in the upcoming month's due to hiring for the holiday season. Seasonal growth is expected in retail trade. Government employment may show an increase next month. Construction employment should slow down during the winter months as a result of severe weather.

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1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes LaFourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Quachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change from Sept. 1985 | Net Change from October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 1,597.2 | 1,593.6 | 1,608.9 | + 3.6 | -11.7 |
| MINING | 77.6 | 79.0 | 81.3 | - 1.4 | - 3.7 |
| Oil and Gas Extraction | 74.2 | 75.6 | 78.2 | - 1.4 | - 4.0 |
| Nonmetallic Minerals | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 0 | + 0.3 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 114.4 | 114.0 | 119.8 | + 0.4 | - 5.4 |
| MANUFACTURING | 175.3 | 175.6 | 184.0 | - 0.3 | - 8.7 |
| Durable Goods | 80.3 | 81.3 | 85.1 | - 1.0 | - 4.8 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 12.9 | 12.7 | 13.4 | + 0.2 | - 0.5 |
| Furniture and Fixtures | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.9 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 7.5 | 7.8 | 8.1 | - 0.3 | - 0.6 |
| Primary Metal Industries | 3.8 | 4.0 | 3.6 | - 0.2 | + 0.2 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 12.4 | 12.4 | 13.4 | 0 | - 1.0 |
| Machinery, Except Electrical | 9.6 | 9.8 | 10.1 | - 0.2 | - 0.5 |
| Electrical & Electronic Equipment | 8.9 | 9.0 | 11.2 | - 0.1 | - 2.3 |
| Transportation Equipment | 21.6 | 21.9 | 21.8 | - 0.3 | - 0.2 |
| Other Durable Goods (1) | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 95.0 | 94.3 | 98.9 | + 0.7 | - 3.9 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 21.9 | 21.6 | 22.4 | + 0.3 | - 0.5 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 9.1 | 8.9 | 9.3 | + 0.2 | - 0.2 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 10.8 | 10.8 | 11.9 | 0 | - 1.1 |
| Printing & Publishing | 10.2 | 10.1 | 10.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 27.4 | 27.6 | 28.9 | - 0.2 | - 1.5 |
| Petroleum and Coal Products | 11.9 | 11.9 | 12.6 | 0 | - 0.7 |
| Petroleum Refining | 11.1 | 11.1 | 11.6 | 0 | - 0.5 |
| Other Nondurable Goods (2) | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | + 0.3 | 0 |
| TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES | 113.7 | 114.3 | 118.6 | - 0.6 | - 4.9 |
| Railroad Transportation | 6.0 | 7.1 | 7.4 | - 1.1 | - 1.4 |
| Transportation, ex. Railroads | 66.5 | 66.0 | 69.1 | + 0.5 | - 2.6 |
| Communication & Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Ser. | 41.2 | 41.2 | 42.1 | 0 | - 0.9 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 384.5 | 381.4 | 383.1 | + 3.1 | + 1.4 |
| Wholesale Trade | 93.5 | 94.1 | 95.2 | - 0.6 | - 1.7 |
| Retail Trade | 291.0 | 287.3 | 287.9 | + 3.7 | + 3.1 |
| Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc. | 60.5 | 57.5 | 59.0 | + 3.0 | + 1.5 |
| Food Stores | 55.9 | 55.6 | 53.8 | + 0.3 | + 2.1 |
| Auto Dealers & Service Stations | 33.1 | 32.9 | 32.7 | + 0.2 | + 0.4 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 85.9 | 86.2 | 86.5 | - 0.3 | - 0.6 |
| Other Retail Trade | 55.6 | 55.1 | 55.9 | + 0.5 | - 0.3 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE | 84.3 | 84.3 | 83.3 | 0 | + 1.0 |
| Banking | 27.4 | 27.4 | 27.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| SERVICES | 318.5 | 319.1 | 315.4 | - 0.6 | + 3.1 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 21.4 | 21.4 | 23.0 | 0 | - 1.6 |
| Other Services | 297.1 | 297.7 | 292.4 | - 0.6 | + 4.7 |
| GOVERNMENT | 328.9 | 325.9 | 323.4 | + 3.0 | + 5.5 |
| Federal | 35.5 | 35.6 | 34.3 | - 0.1 | + 1.2 |
| State and Local | 293.4 | 290.3 | 289.1 | + 3.1 | + 4.3 |
| State | 100.2 | 99.2 | 100.9 | + 1.0 | - 0.7 |
| Local | 193.2 | 191.1 | 188.2 | + 2.1 | + 5.0 |

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

## AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** |
| All MANUFACTURING (1) | $432.43 | $434.30 | $412.87 | 41.5 | 41.6 | 41.0 | $10.42 | $10.44 | $10.07 |
| Durable Goods | 398.40 | 402.69 | 374.79 | 41.2 | 41.6 | 40.3 | 9.67 | 9.68 | 9.30 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 316.76 | 317.94 | 307.62 | 39.3 | 39.3 | 38.5 | 8.06 | 8.09 | 7.99 |
| Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts. | 405.10 | 366.08 | 340.42 | 43.7 | 41.6 | 39.4 | 9.27 | 8.80 | 8.64 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 405.57 | 446.47 | 377.06 | 43.1 | 46.8 | 40.5 | 9.41 | 9.54 | 9.31 |
| Machinery, ex. Electrical | 421.88 | 440.67 | 391.23 | 42.7 | 44.2 | 40.5 | 9.88 | 9.97 | 9.66 |
| Electric & Electronic Equip. | 473.41 | 462.45 | 457.92 | 41.6 | 41.7 | 43.2 | 11.38 | 11.09 | 10.60 |
| Transportation Equipment | 436.04 | 441.05 | 392.18 | 40.6 | 40.5 | 38.6 | 10.74 | 10.89 | 10.16 |
| Nondurable Goods | 463.29 | 464.67 | 450.78 | 41.7 | 41.6 | 41.7 | 11.11 | 11.17 | 10.81 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 292.73 | 298.33 | 270.68 | 40.1 | 40.7 | 39.4 | 7.30 | 7.33 | 6.87 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Pdts. | 186.03 | 171.51 | 188.64 | 35.1 | 32.3 | 39.3 | 5.30 | 5.31 | 4.80 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 572.83 | 563.11 | 564.55 | 44.2 | 44.2 | 43.9 | 12.96 | 12.74 | 12.86 |
| Printing & Publishing | 383.50 | 383.55 | 355.02 | 39.7 | 39.5 | 38.8 | 9.66 | 9.71 | 9.15 |
| Chemicals & Allied Pdts. | 629.16 | 638.55 | 634.31 | 42.8 | 43.0 | 42.6 | 14.77 | 14.85 | 14.89 |
| Petroleum & Coal Products | 692.14 | 688.30 | 633.20 | 47.8 | 47.6 | 45.1 | 14.48 | 14.46 | 14.04 |
| Petroleum Refining | 711.43 | 710.47 | 652.40 | 48.2 | 48.2 | 45.4 | 14.76 | 14.74 | 14.37 |
| MINING | 552.50 | 557.50 | 528.98 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 47.4 | 11.05 | 11.15 | 11.16 |
| COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 493.81 | 518.30 | 470.04 | 39.6 | 41.2 | 39.4 | 12.47 | 12.58 | 11.93 |
| BANKING | 250.42 | 250.63 | 236.50 | 37.6 | 39.1 | 37.6 | 6.66 | 6.41 | 6.29 |

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 123,400 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 102,600 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

# LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

| | PRELIMINARY 10 85 | | | | REVISED 09 85 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | LABOR FORCE | EMPL. | UNEMP | RATE | LABOR FORCE | EMPL. | UNEMP | RATE |
| CROWLEY (ACADIA) | 26,475 | 23,325 | 3,150 | 11.9 | 26,575 | 23,425 | 3,150 | 11.9 |
| OAKDALE (ALLEN) | 6,950 | 5,675 | 1,275 | 18.2 | 6,925 | 5,650 | 1,275 | 18.4 |
| NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION) | 11,925 | 10,400 | 1,525 | 12.8 | 11,450 | 10,050 | 1,400 | 12.2 |
| BUNKIE (AVOYELLES) | 14,025 | 11,475 | 2,550 | 18.1 | 14,100 | 11,500 | 2,600 | 18.4 |
| DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD) | 13,300 | 11,850 | 1,450 | 10.9 | 13,075 | 11,650 | 1,425 | 10.9 |
| ARCADIA (BIENVILLE) | 8,050 | 7,250 | 800 | 10.0 | 7,925 | 7,175 | 750 | 9.4 |
| COLUMBIA (CALDWELL) | 5,675 | 5,175 | 500 | 8.7 | 5,600 | 5,100 | 500 | 8.9 |
| CAMERON (CAMERON) | 5,525 | 5,075 | 450 | 8.3 | 5,350 | 4,975 | 375 | 6.9 |
| JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA) | 6,425 | 5,525 | 900 | 14.1 | 6,350 | 5,350 | 1,000 | 15.6 |
| HOMER (CLAIBORNE) | 7,850 | 7,200 | 650 | 8.4 | 7,775 | 7,150 | 625 | 8.0 |
| FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA) | 10,925 | 9,300 | 1,625 | 14.9 | 11,000 | 9,325 | 1,675 | 15.2 |
| MANSFIELD (DESOTO) | 13,900 | 12,250 | 1,650 | 11.9 | 13,800 | 12,200 | 1,600 | 11.6 |
| LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL) | 5,800 | 5,150 | 650 | 11.3 | 6,025 | 5,250 | 775 | 12.9 |
| CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA) | 8,875 | 7,800 | 1,075 | 12.1 | 8,900 | 7,825 | 1,075 | 12.0 |
| VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE) | 15,600 | 13,575 | 2,025 | 13.0 | 15,450 | 13,375 | 2,075 | 13.4 |
| WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN) | 9,575 | 8,225 | 1,350 | 14.2 | 9,525 | 8,200 | 1,325 | 14.0 |
| COLFAX (GRANT) | 4,125 | 3,425 | 700 | 17.2 | 4,125 | 3,450 | 675 | 16.4 |
| NEW IBERIA (IBERIA) | 36,950 | 32,900 | 4,050 | 11.0 | 36,875 | 33,125 | 3,750 | 10.2 |
| PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE) | 16,675 | 14,450 | 2,225 | 13.3 | 16,575 | 14,375 | 2,200 | 13.3 |
| JONESBORO (JACKSON) | 7,050 | 6,400 | 650 | 9.1 | 7,025 | 6,400 | 625 | 9.0 |
| JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS) | 14,300 | 12,375 | 1,925 | 13.4 | 14,325 | 12,400 | 1,925 | 13.4 |
| JENA (LASALLE) | 7,300 | 6,575 | 725 | 9.9 | 7,075 | 6,425 | 650 | 9.3 |
| RUSTON (LINCOLN) | 23,425 | 22,425 | 1,000 | 4.3 | 23,125 | 22,200 | 925 | 4.0 |
| TALLULAH (MADISON) | 6,625 | 5,750 | 875 | 13.2 | 6,600 | 5,700 | 900 | 13.8 |
| BASTROP (MOREHOUSE) | 13,600 | 11,925 | 1,675 | 12.2 | 13,700 | 11,950 | 1,750 | 12.8 |
| NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES) | 18,725 | 16,975 | 1,750 | 9.3 | 18,600 | 17,025 | 1,575 | 8.4 |
| POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.) | 15,200 | 14,075 | 1,125 | 7.5 | 15,325 | 14,250 | 1,075 | 7.0 |
| NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE) | 14,700 | 13,075 | 1,625 | 11.1 | 14,900 | 13,275 | 1,625 | 11.0 |
| COUSHATTA (RED RIVER) | 4,975 | 4,500 | 475 | 9.4 | 4,950 | 4,500 | 450 | 9.1 |
| RAYVILLE (RICHLAND) | 9,675 | 8,650 | 1,025 | 10.5 | 9,775 | 8,675 | 1,100 | 11.3 |
| MANY (SABINE) | 9,325 | 8,175 | 1,150 | 12.3 | 9,125 | 8,025 | 1,100 | 12.0 |
| GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA) | 4,850 | 4,375 | 475 | 9.8 | 4,775 | 4,300 | 475 | 10.2 |
| LUTCHER (ST. JAMES) | 10,425 | 8,825 | 1,600 | 15.2 | 10,450 | 8,725 | 1,725 | 16.6 |
| OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY) | 36,625 | 30,700 | 5,925 | 16.2 | 36,775 | 30,750 | 6,025 | 16.4 |
| MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY) | 35,700 | 31,275 | 4,425 | 12.4 | 35,600 | 31,400 | 4,200 | 11.8 |
| HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA) | 38,550 | 32,875 | 5,675 | 14.7 | 38,725 | 32,950 | 5,775 | 14.9 |
| ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS) | 3,775 | 3,500 | 275 | 7.1 | 3,800 | 3,525 | 275 | 7.0 |
| FARMERVILLE (UNION) | 8,150 | 7,275 | 875 | 10.8 | 8,100 | 7,250 | 850 | 10.3 |
| ABBEVILLE (VERMILION) | 27,000 | 23,825 | 3,175 | 11.7 | 27,175 | 24,200 | 2,975 | 11.0 |
| LEESVILLE (VERNON) | 13,350 | 11,950 | 1,400 | 10.5 | 13,325 | 11,925 | 1,400 | 10.6 |
| BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON) | 16,175 | 13,800 | 2,375 | 14.8 | 16,025 | 13,700 | 2,325 | 14.4 |
| MINDEN (WEBSTER) | 16,975 | 14,700 | 2,275 | 13.4 | 16,850 | 14,650 | 2,200 | 13.0 |
| OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL) | 5,400 | 4,575 | 825 | 15.2 | 5,725 | 4,675 | 1,050 | 18.3 |
| ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.) | 4,075 | 3,625 | 450 | 11.2 | 4,200 | 3,700 | 500 | 11.7 |
| WINNFIELD (WINN) | 6,025 | 5,475 | 550 | 9.3 | 5,950 | 5,475 | 475 | 8.2 |

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. 1985 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 45.8 | 45.7 | 45.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.3 |
| MANUFACTURING | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.5 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Durable Goods | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.3 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0 | 0 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 |
| MINING | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 0 | 0 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 0 | 0 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 11.5 | 11.4 | 11.0 | + 0.1 | + 0.5 |
| Wholesale Trade | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Retail Trade | 9.2 | 9.1 | 8.7 | + 0.1 | + 0.5 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.7 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta. | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0 | 0 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| Other Retail Trade | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 0 | 0 |
| SERVICES | 9.9 | 9.7 | 9.9 | + 0.2 | 0 |
| Health Services | 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.1 | + 0.1 | 0 |
| GOVERNMENT | 12.7 | 12.8 | 12.9 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Federal | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 0 | 0 |
| State and Local | 10.2 | 10.3 | 10.4 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| State | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.3 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Local | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 0 | 0 |

## EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria metropolitan statistical area was estimated at 45,800 during October. The estimate was 100 more than September and 300 more than October of last year.

Estimated employment in manufacturing totaled 3,500, less 100 than last month and unchanged since the comparable month last year. The loss was in lumber and wood products under durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing at 42,300 during October was 200 more than last month and 300 more than October last year. Changes during the past thirty days reflect gains in retail trade and services, with a decline in the number of state workers. Since last year retail trade has increased 500, and state government has declined by 200.

During the next thirty days little change is expected in the total number of employed, but there should be a rise in the number of unemployed.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. 1985 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 220.5 | 219.8 | 218.8 | + 0.7 | + 1.7 |
| MANUFACTURING | 20.6 | 20.6 | 21.8 | 0 | - 1.2 |
| Durable Goods | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.4 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0 | 0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.0 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 16.5 | 16.4 | 17.4 | + 0.1 | - 0.9 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Printing & Publishing | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 0 | 0 |
| Chemicals and Petroleum Products | 11.7 | 11.7 | 12.6 | 0 | - 0.9 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.0 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| MINING | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 25.7 | 25.3 | 23.5 | + 0.4 | + 2.2 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES | 10.7 | 10.8 | 10.5 | - 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 52.5 | 52.5 | 53.9 | 0 | - 1.4 |
| Wholesale Trade | 10.8 | 10.9 | 11.1 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Retail Trade | 41.7 | 41.6 | 42.8 | + 0.1 | - 1.1 |
| FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE | 13.6 | 13.5 | 13.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| SERVICES | 40.1 | 40.5 | 40.1 | - 0.4 | 0 |
| GOVERNMENT | 56.0 | 55.3 | 54.3 | + 0.7 | + 1.7 |
| Federal | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| State and Local | 53.9 | 53.2 | 52.3 | + 0.7 | + 1.6 |
| State | 32.9 | 32.6 | 31.5 | + 0.3 | + 1.4 |
| Local | 21.0 | 20.6 | 20.8 | + 0.4 | + 0.2 |

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** |
| 1 MANUFACTURING (1) | $515.39 | $529.05 | $502.62 | 42.7 | 43.4 | 41.3 | $12.07 | $12.19 | $12.17 |
| Petro-Chemicals | 668.50 | 699.57 | 686.87 | 45.6 | 46.7 | 45.1 | 14.66 | 14.98 | 15.23 |

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 220,500 during October was up 700 over the September revised estimate and up 1,700 over the total for last October. Manufacturing had no change and nonmanufacturing was up 700.

Total manufacturing employment had no change during the current period; however, durable goods were down due to less business in concrete, gypsum and plaster products, and nondurable goods were up due to a seasonal increase in miscellaneous apparel and accessories.

Employment in nonmanufacturing at 199,900 during October was up 700 over September's revised total. Mining had no change during the current period. Construction was up due to more business in general building contractors-nonresidential buildings and in miscellaneous special trade contractors. Transportation and public utilities were down due to a seasonal decrease in services incidental to water transportation. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in hardware and plumbing and heating equipment and supplies and in machinery, equipment and supplies. Retail trade was up due to seasonal increases in department stores and grocery stores. Finance, insurance and real estate were up due to more business in life insurance and in health insurance and medical service plans. Services were down due to seasonal decreases in hotels, motels and tourist courts, in photographic studios, portrait, and in miscellaneous business services. Government was up due to more business in public hospitals and seasonal increases in colleges, universities, professional schools and junior colleges.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,500 production workers in all manufacturing was $515.39 in October. September's revised average was $529.05. Average weekly hours were 42.7 and average hourly earnings were $12.07.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 240,400 during October, up 1,000 over September's revised estimate and up 6,200 over the total for last September. Unemployment at 26,600 during October was up 100 during the current period. The October unemployment rate was 10.0 percent and unchanged from the revised September rate. The statewide rate was 10.9 percent during October. The Baton Rouge LMA civilian labor force totaled 267,000 during October.

Seasonal gains in employment expected to continue during the coming month, holding unemployment near the same level.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 2,090 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 666 applicants in jobs during October.

The consumer price index for September, 1985 for all urban consumers was 324.5 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 320.5 using base period 1967=100.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. 1985 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 60.4 | 61.1 | 62.7 | - 0.7 | - 2.3 |
| MANUFACTURING | 6.0 | 6.4 | 5.6 | - 0.4 | + 0.4 |
| Durable Goods | 4.1 | 4.4 | 3.8 | - 0.3 | + 0.3 |
| Nondurable Goods | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.8 | - 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| MINING | 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.1 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.5 | - 0.2 | - 0.7 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 7.1 | 6.9 | 7.2 | + 0.2 | - 0.1 |
| Water Transportation | 5.1 | 4.9 | 4.8 | + 0.2 | + 0.3 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 14.1 | 14.3 | 15.4 | - 0.2 | - 1.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.8 | - 0.2 | - 0.7 |
| Retail Trade | 11.0 | 11.0 | 11.6 | 0 | - 0.6 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| SERVICES | 8.7 | 8.8 | 9.4 | - 0.1 | - 0.7 |
| GOVERNMENT | 11.0 | 11.0 | 11.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Federal | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| State and Local | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.6 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| State | 2.9 | 3.0 | 2.9 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Local | 7.6 | 7.5 | 7.7 | + 0.1 | - 0.1 |

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA in October decreased to 60,400 down 700 from September. Most industry divisions either decreased or held steady. Since October of last year, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 2,300 workers.

Manufacturing employment totaled 6,000 in October, 400 less than last month. Durable goods exhibited downturns in ship and boatbuilding and repairing, fabricated metal products and machinery. Nondurable goods decreased slightly in food and kindred products. Manufacturing employment has increased 400 when compared to this same time last year.

Construction showed a decrease that was largely seasonal in nature. Wholesale trade sustained an overall downtrend. Services tapered off, mostly in business services. Government held steady, with a small upturn in local government offsetting a minor downturn in state government. Finance, insurance and real estate exhibited no significant change. Mining remained at the same level. More favorably, transportation was boosted by an upturn in water transportation.

Estimated unemployment in October remained at the same level as in September, both numerically and as a percentage of the labor force. Current joblessness comprises 10.6 percent of the labor force compared to 8.8 percent in October of last year. The October rate was slightly lower than the state rate of 10.9 percent, but much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.8 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 2,051.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show an overall seasonal increase. Retail trade will benefit from shopping for the holiday season. Less favorably, mining and construction will make downward adjustments necessitated by winter weather conditions. Unemployment is expected to show some decrease as employment increases.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. 1985 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 95.3 | 96.3 | 99.3 | - 1.0 | - 4.0 |
| MANUFACTURING | 5.7 | 5.8 | 6.3 | - 0.1 | - 0.6 |
| Durable Goods | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 3.4 | 3.5 | 4.0 | - 0.1 | - 0.6 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 0 | 0 |
| MINING | 15.2 | 15.6 | 17.6 | - 0.4 | - 2.4 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 0 | 0 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 7.1 | 7.1 | 7.2 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 24.9 | 25.3 | 26.1 | - 0.4 | - 1.2 |
| Wholesale Trade | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.8 | 0 | - 0.5 |
| Retail Trade | 18.6 | 19.0 | 19.3 | - 0.4 | - 0.7 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| Food Stores | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.2 | - 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta. | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | - 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Other Retail Trade | 10.6 | 10.8 | 11.5 | - 0.2 | - 0.9 |
| FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| SERVICES | 19.3 | 19.5 | 19.4 | - 0.2 | - 0.1 |
| GOVERNMENT | 13.6 | 13.5 | 13.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.5 |
| Federal | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.8 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| State and Local | 12.7 | 12.7 | 12.3 | 0 | + 0.4 |
| State | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Local | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.1 | 0 | + 0.3 |

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette was estimated at 95,300 for a decrease of 1,000 from the previous month and a 400 decrease from October of 1984. The most significant decrease was in the nonmanufacturing segment of the economy.

Nonmanufacturing decreased 900 from the previous month and 3,400 from the same period of time a year ago.

Mining stood at 15,200 for October, a decrease of 400 from September and 2,400 from October of 1984. The primary reason for these decreases is the slowdown in drilling activities. At the present time there is little optimism that anything will pick up soon in the oilfield.

The other segment of the economy that had a noted decrease was in the trade area. Trade in October was estimated at 24,900 a 400 decrease from the previous month and 700 decrease from October of 1984. The closing of a large retail store chain in this area was responsible for this drop.

The rest of the estimating cells remained relatively stable.

Lafayette's unemployment rate is expected to decline in the following month due to the hiring for the holiday season. Construction should decline due to inclement weather in the winter.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. 1985 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 57.9 | 58.2 | 60.1 | - 0.3 | - 2.2 |
| MANUFACTURING | 9.6 | 9.5 | 9.8 | + 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Durable Goods | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Prod. | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Durable Goods | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 8.9 | 8.8 | 9.0 | + 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0 | 0 |
| Chemical & Pet. Products | 8.0 | 7.9 | 8.1 | + 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 |
| MINING | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.0 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 3.5 | 3.5 | 4.1 | 0 | - 0.6 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.5 | - 0.2 | 0 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 14.2 | 14.2 | 14.7 | 0 | - 0.5 |
| Wholesale Trade | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 10.9 | 10.9 | 11.3 | 0 | - 0.4 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta. | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.3 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| SERVICES | 10.7 | 10.8 | 11.0 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Hotels & Other Lodg. Places | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Personal Services | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0 | 0 |
| GOVERNMENT | 10.9 | 10.9 | 11.2 | 0 | - 0.3 |
| Federal | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 |
| State and Local | 10.2 | 10.2 | 10.5 | 0 | - 0.3 |
| State | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Local | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lake Charles for October of 1985 was estimated at 57,900, a decrease of 300 from September's level and 2,200 below October a year ago.

Manufacturing remained relatively stable with a 100 increase from the previous month.

Nonmanufacturing, however, showed a 400 decrease from September of 1985 and a 2,000 decrease from October of 1984.

Wholesale and retail trade showed little fluctuations, as well as finance, insurance and real estate.

The remaining segments of the economy showed little variance.

During the next 30 days, trade may begin climbing as area merchants prepare for the Christmas shopping season. Unemployment may dip slightly.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. 1985 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 55.1 | 54.6 | 54.1 | + 0.5 | + 1.0 |
| MANUFACTURING | 7.2 | 7.1 | 7.2 | + 0.1 | 0 |
| Durable Goods | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | + 0.1 | 0 |
| Other Durable Goods | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.1 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Chemical & Allied Products | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| MINING | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.2 | + 0.1 | + 0.3 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 2.6 | 2.7 | 2.7 | - 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 16.8 | 16.7 | 15.7 | + 0.1 | + 1.1 |
| Wholesale Trade | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.4 | + 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 12.5 | 12.5 | 11.3 | 0 | + 1.2 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 3.8 | 3.8 | 2.9 | 0 | + 0.9 |
| Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta. | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| SERVICES | 10.6 | 10.4 | 10.8 | + 0.2 | - 0.2 |
| Hotels & Other Lodg. Places | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0 | 0 |
| Personal Services | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Health Services | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 0 | 0 |
| GOVERNMENT | 9.3 | 9.3 | 9.7 | 0 | - 0.4 |
| Federal | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0 | 0 |
| State and Local | 8.7 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 0 | - 0.4 |
| State | 4.7 | 4.8 | 4.9 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Local | 4.0 | 3.9 | 4.2 | + 0.1 | - 0.2 |

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 55,100 during mid-October, was 500 above the September estimate of 54,600. Gains were primarily in nonmanufacturing.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,200 was up 100 from the September estimate. The gain was in durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 47,900, was 400 above September. Mining and construction each posted gains of 100. Wholesale and retail trade gained 100 workers as wholesale prepared and shipped for the upcoming holiday season. Services gained 200, the largest of any segment. Transportation, communication and public utilities was the only segment to experience a loss, 100 workers. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next thirty days, employment should remain relatively stable as construction tends to complete projects before inclement weather begins and trade gears up for the holiday season. Unemployment will remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. '85 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 530.[illegible] | 529.6 | 544.7 | + 0.9 | -14.[illegible] |
| MANUFACTURING | 46.5 | 46.7 | 48.4 | - 0.2 | - 1.9 |
| Durable Goods | 22.9 | 23.1 | 24.1 | - 0.2 | - 1.2 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.7 | - 0.1 | - 0.8 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.3 | + 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Machinery, Except Electrical | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.0 | - 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Transportation Equipment | 12.6 | 12.7 | 12.6 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing | 7.9 | 8.0 | 7.8 | - 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 23.6 | 23.6 | 24.3 | 0 | - 0.7 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.3 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Printing & Publishing | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.6 | + 0.1 | + 0.3 |
| Chemicals and Allied Products | 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Petroleum & Coal Products | 4.8 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| MINING | 19.4 | 19.8 | 20.1 | - 0.4 | - 0.7 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 31.8 | 31.8 | 34.6 | 0 | - 2.8 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 45.1 | 44.8 | 47.2 | + 0.3 | - 1.[illegible] |
| Railroad Transportation | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Water Transportation | 15.0 | 14.6 | 15.3 | + 0.4 | - 0.3 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 142.2 | 139.8 | 142.6 | + 2.4 | - 0.4 |
| Wholesale Trade | 34.4 | 34.6 | 36.1 | - 0.2 | - 1.7 |
| Retail Trade | 107.8 | 105.2 | 106.5 | + 2.6 | + 1.3 |
| FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE | 31.5 | 31.7 | 32.4 | - 0.2 | - 0.9 |
| SERVICES | 127.4 | 128.2 | 132.7 | - 0.8 | - 5.3 |
| GOVERNMENT | 86.6 | 86.8 | 86.7 | - 0.2 | - 0.1 |
| Federal | 15.1 | 15.1 | 14.7 | 0 | + 0.4 |
| State and Local | 71.5 | 71.7 | 72.0 | - 0.2 | - 0.5 |
| State | 21.5 | 21.2 | 21.5 | + 0.3 | 0 |
| Local | 50.0 | 50.5 | 50.5 | - 0.5 | - 0.5 |

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** |
| All MANUFACTURING | $431.50 | $431.50 | $406.58 | 40.9 | 40.9 | 39.9 | $10.55 | $10.55 | $10.19 |
| Durable Goods | 392.00 | 396.77 | 373.26 | 40.0 | 40.2 | 38.6 | 9.80 | 9.87 | 9.67 |
| Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts. | 393.33 | 382.66 | 341.95 | 38.6 | 38.0 | 35.0 | 10.19 | 10.07 | 9.77 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 404.10 | 435.16 | 428.18 | 44.8 | 47.3 | 45.6 | 9.02 | 9.20 | 9.39 |
| Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing | 380.52 | 379.26 | 359.29 | 37.9 | 37.7 | 36.7 | 10.04 | 10.06 | 9.79 |
| Nondurable Goods | 471.09 | 466.75 | 441.50 | 41.8 | 41.6 | 41.3 | 11.27 | 11.22 | 10.69 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 334.28 | 345.72 | 325.91 | 38.6 | 40.2 | 39.6 | 8.66 | 8.60 | 8.23 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Pdts. | 158.13 | 123.40 | 185.33 | 31.5 | 26.2 | 35.3 | 5.02 | 4.71 | 5.25 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 377.96 | 439.53 | 381.06 | 44.0 | 49.0 | 45.8 | 8.59 | 8.97 | 8.32 |
| Printing & Publishing | 399.93 | 394.62 | 369.29 | 43.9 | 42.8 | 41.4 | 9.11 | 9.22 | 8.92 |
| Chemicals & Allied Pdts. | 663.28 | 664.02 | 642.19 | 42.6 | 42.0 | 40.8 | 15.57 | 15.81 | 15.74 |

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 40,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans LMA in October increased to 530,500, up 900 from September. A substantial gain in retail trade was responsible, easily offsetting decreases in most industry divisions. Since October of 1984, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 14,200 workers, partly reflecting a high level of employment last year brought by the 1984 World's Fair and other industries stimulated by it.

Employment in manufacturing totaled 46,500 in October, 200 less than last month. The decrease was in the durable goods sector. Small downturns in stone, clay and glass products, machinery and transportation equipment could not be offset by the slight increase in fabricated metal products. Nondurable goods held steady over the month. Compared to this time last year, manufacturing employment is down 1,900.

Highlighting all local economic activity was the opening of one large shopping center and preparations for the opening of another. These centers will make it easier for people in outlying areas to shop in this LMA as well as provide a greater diversity of stores for the local people. Transportation benefited from an increase in employment by water transportation. Less favorably, services showed an overall decrease spread through most industries in than division. Mining moved down seasonally. Real estate and insurance carriers made downward adjustments. Local government pulled down even further from the summer high. Construction held steady.

Average weekly earnings of area production workers totaled $431.50 in October the same as last month. Both average weekly hours and average hourly earnings held steady over the month. Compared to one year ago, average weekly earnings have increased by $24.92.

Estimated unemployment in October moved down to 63,300, a level 700 below September. A seasonal decrease in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force was mainly responsible. Joblessness currently comprises 10.9 percent of the labor force compared to 11.0 percent in September and 9.5 percent in October of last year. The October rate was the same as the state rate, but much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.8 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 14,971. About 46.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; approximately 34.0 percent were female.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to display an overall seasonal increase. Retail trade will benefit from shopping for the holiday season. Services will be boosted by the opening of the Fair Grounds racing season. Less favorably, mining and construction will make downward adjustments necessitated by winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably remain near the current level.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | October 1985* | Sept. 1985** | October 1984** | Net Change From Sept. 1985 | Net Change From October 1984 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 143.2 | 143.3 | 144.8 | - 0.1 | - 1.6 |
| MANUFACTURING | 19.9 | 19.9 | 23.2 | 0 | - 3.3 |
| Durable Goods | 15.7 | 15.7 | 18.4 | 0 | - 2.7 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | + 0.1 | 0 |
| Metals and Machinery | 9.8 | 9.8 | 12.3 | 0 | - 2.5 |
| Primary and Fabricated Metals | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.4 | 0 | - 0.4 |
| Machinery, Inc. Electrical | 7.8 | 7.8 | 9.9 | 0 | - 2.1 |
| Other Durable Goods | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.4 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Nondurable Goods | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 0 | - 0.6 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Printing & Publishing | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Petroleum & Coal Products | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 0 | - 0.3 |
| MINING | 4.7 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 0 | - 0.3 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 9.5 | 9.6 | 8.7 | - 0.1 | + 0.8 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 8.1 | 8.1 | 8.9 | 0 | - 0.8 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 34.9 | 35.2 | 34.1 | - 0.3 | + 0.8 |
| Wholesale Trade | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.1 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Retail Trade | 25.8 | 26.0 | 25.0 | - 0.2 | + 0.8 |
| FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE | 7.9 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| SERVICES | 32.5 | 32.5 | 31.9 | 0 | + 0.6 |
| GOVERNMENT | 25.7 | 25.4 | 25.3 | + 0.3 | + 0.4 |
| Federal | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| State and Local | 21.2 | 20.9 | 21.0 | + 0.3 | + 0.2 |
| State | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Local | 14.5 | 14.2 | 14.4 | + 0.3 | + 0.1 |

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** | October '85* | Sept. '85** | October '84** |
| All MANUFACTURING | $407.16 | $415.76 | $411.52 | 39.0 | 39.9 | 41.4 | $10.44 | $10.42 | $9.94 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 264.45 | 257.98 | 221.76 | 43.0 | 42.5 | 42.0 | 6.15 | 6.07 | 5.28 |
| Metals and Machinery | 419.76 | 436.80 | 441.78 | 40.4 | 42.0 | 43.1 | 10.39 | 10.40 | 10.25 |
| Food and Kindred Products | 300.11 | 303.89 | 272.05 | 40.5 | 40.9 | 39.6 | 7.41 | 7.43 | 6.87 |
| Printing and Publishing | 284.20 | 252.97 | 255.74 | 34.2 | 30.7 | 33.3 | 8.31 | 8.24 | 7.68 |
| Petroleum and Coal Products | 513.00 | 517.44 | 421.10 | 45.6 | 45.5 | 41.9 | 11.25 | 11.37 | 10.05 |

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 14,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Shreveport labor area has an estimated 143,200 in nonagricultural wage and salary employment. The current estimate is nearly unchanged from the revised September estimate of 143,300, but falls well below the year ago total of 144,800. The manufacturing employment total of 19,900 is the same as for the previous month and is 3,300 less than October, 1984.

Total nonmanufacturing, at 123,300, is slightly less than the revised September estimate of 123,400.

The manufacturing employment total of 19,900 is unchanged from the previous month but shows a substantial loss from the year ago total of 23,200. Less demand for the manufacturing of durable goods has caused most of this job loss during the past twelve months.

Total nonmanufacturing employment, at 123,300, is 100 less than the revised September estimate and 1,700 more than October, 1984. During the past month employment gains in local government were offset by job reductions in trade. Construction employment shows a slight drop from 9,600 to 9,500.

The Shreveport labor area has an estimated 14,500 production workers with average weekly earnings of $407.16, down slightly from $415.76 the previous month and $411.52 for October, 1984. The average weekly hours dropped to 39.0, down from 39.9 the previous month and 41.4 one year ago. Average weekly earnings increased to $10.44, nearly unchanged from $10.42 for the revised September earnings and up from $9.94 in October, 1984.

The current civilian labor force for the Shreveport area is 168,300, with 152,400 employed and 15,900 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 9.5 percent.

Total unemployment for this labor area will increase to near 17,000, resulting from additional job losses in durable goods manufacturing. The manufacturing employment total will fall below the 19,000 level. Seasonal employment gains are expected in retail trade during the following month.